

Water Permit Fee Bill House File 2672

Executive Summary Only

Last Action:

**House Appropriations
Committee**

April 1, 2008

An Act relating to water use permit fees, creating a new water use permit fund, and making appropriations.

**Fiscal Services Division
Legislative Services Agency**

NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS (NOBA)

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS**

**HOUSE FILE 2672
WATER PERMIT FEE BILL**

FUND CREATED

- Creates a Water Use Permit Fund in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The Fund will receive fee revenue from a Water Use Permit that will be issued for diverting, storing, or withdrawing water.

FEE REVENUE

- Specifies the amount charged for a Water Use Permit will be determined by the Environmental Protection Commission. The fee will be based on the Department's expenditures for reviewing and issuing permits, ensuring compliance, and resolving complaints. The fee revenue cannot generate more than \$500,000 per fiscal year beginning FY 2010.
- Specifies the Commission will annually review the amount of fee revenue generated from the fees and the related expenditures incurred by the DNR each fiscal year.

APPROPRIATION

- The DNR will receive an annual appropriation from the Water Use Permit Fund to implement the Program. The Bill specifies any unused balances and any interest earned will remain in the Fund.

FISCAL IMPACT

- There is no impact to the State General Fund. The DNR estimates expenditures of \$383,000 for FY 2009 and \$413,000 for FY 2010. This includes 3.3 FTE positions at a cost of \$228,000 for FY 2009 and \$266,000 for FY 2010, and \$155,000 in support, travel, and related expenditures for FY 2009 and \$147,000 for FY 2010.

RULE MAKING

- Permits the Environmental Protection Commission to adopt administrative rules that include the level of fees charged by the DNR.
- Permits the DNR to adopt emergency rules to rescind existing water permit fees and to adopt new fees.

EFFECTIVE DATE

- The Bill is effective July 1, 2008.